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AMENDMENT	Application #	09/214,708
	Confirmation #	8306
	Filing Date	January 11, 1999
	First Inventor	ITANO
	Art Unit	1746
	Examiner	Winter, Gentle E.
	Docket #	P06217US0/BAS

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 5, 2003, please amend the above identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

A complete listing of all claims is provided herewith in **Attachment A**. It will be noted that claims 11 and 15 are currently amended.

REMARKS

Claims 11-18 stand pending in the present application. By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claims 11 and 15. Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance based on the discussion which follows.

Claims 11, 12, 14-16 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Senoue et al (hereinafter "Senoue"). Claims 13 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Senoue further in view of Denison et al (hereinafter "Denison").

In order to more clearly recite Applicant's invention, Applicant has amended claims 11 and 15 to now recite that the claimed gases remove reaction byproducts